Assistance to Media/TV Companies by Banks/FIs

970. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of Media/TV companies which have been given financial assistance by way of loan, equity and working capital by the financial institutions like IDBI, Exim Bank, IFCI and IIBI etc; and

(b) what is the amount of such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) IDBI has provided financial assistance to seven Media/TV companies involving sanctions aggregating to Rs. 89.5 crores. IFCI has sanctioned financial assistance to four companies involving sanctions aggregating to Rs. 141.8 crores. Similarly, IIBI has also sanctioned four projects with an aggregate outstanding of Rs. 2.18 crores. Exim Bank does not have any exposure in Media/TV companies.

Smuggling of Cellular Handsets

971. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large scale of smuggling of cellular handsets is causing huge revenue loss to the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Cellular Association has made suggestion for dealing with the smugglers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Smuggling being a clandestine activity, it cannot be said with certainty that large scale smuggling of cellular handsets is taking place which is causing huge loss of revenue to the country. However, details of seizures of cellular handsets effected by field

formations under the customs department including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence during the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto October, 2001) are as follows:

Year	No. of Cellular Handsets Seized	Value of Cellular Handsets Seized (Rs. in Lakhs)
2000-2001	23547	1341.06
2001-2002 (Upto October, 2001)	14472	713.56

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A representation has been received from Indian Cellular Association wherein following suggestions to check the smuggling of cellular handsets have been made:—

(i) Abolition of Countervailing Duty (CVD) & Special Additional Duty (SAD) on imported cellular handsets and application of uniform sales tax;

(ii) Stricter enforcement and imposition of penalty under the Customs Act and the Sales Tax Act;

(iii) Legislation so that subscribers have to provide evidence to the network operators that the cellular handsets are customs duty paid.

Freeze on Accounts of Jammu and Kashmir Terrorist Outfits

972. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to freeze accounts of Jammu and Kashmir terrorist outfits which are indulging in terrorist activities and have used financial networks to support terrorism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Government of India have prohibited some organisations functioning in the State of